

Arlington Recycling Committee
Minutes of 9/4/14

PRESENT Co-Chairs: Juli Brazile and Gordon Jamieson; Recycling Coordinator Charlotte Milan, Ellen Callaway, Susan Stamps, Secretary: Pete Howard

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Charlotte discussed her monthly report (Ref 1). The total solid waste tonnage for 2014 was 1% greater than 2013. The recycling tonnage was almost the same. The diversion rate (yard waste + recycling) was 40% of the total solid waste. Charlotte focused on monitoring the hauler, JRM & observing the rate of non-compliance by the residents to the trash regulations. Generally the compliance is good. There are some exceptions. Charlotte provided a prioritized list of her efforts in the coming year {Ref 1}. DPW will wait until the Cambridge & Salem kitchen waste composting pilot programs are finished before considering what Arlington should do. Also the committee hopes that DPW will be able to reduce the maximum # of barrels in the future.

The tour of Wheelabrator in late July was successful. Susan described some high points. Charlotte hopes to arrange field trips to Deer Island, GreenWork (JRM's new facility) & Wheelabrator in the spring around EcoFest.

TOWN DAY 9/13: Use Ecofest handout (Ref 2). Juli will add a list of planned events. At least one ARC volunteer will be at the DPW booth from 10 to 1. Charlotte is organizing a food waste collection for composting near the food booths.

PROMOTIONAL IDEAS

Juli reviewed the various article published in the Advocate over the summer. All agreed that it would be desirable to archive them in the ARC location on the Town website. Pete's article on food waste composting has been edited by the cochairs. Juli will put together a final version.

Gordon will prepare an article on how he recycles his food waste (by taking it to a neighbor).

Gordon is considering a summary of all the articles for posting on the website.

Gordon suggested an article on CCD w/ photos, #cars etc.

Something is needed concerning rigid plastic including a definition.

RECYCLING PHOTO RECEPTION

Charlotte suggested that the ARC sponsor, perhaps w/ Vision 2020 Public Art, a display of Ellen's photos in the Town Hall 2nd floor display area and that the display be opened with a wine & cheese reception. Ellen is pleased with this idea. Juli will discuss w/ Patsy Kraemer. Ideally the display would be hanging during Town Meeting.

BUSINESS RECYCLING

Susan & Juli will try to get the survey into the annual letter sent soon to the haulers. Susan expects to return to this project after the CPA campaign ends.

MINUTES

Pete suggested that the policy on reviewing meeting minutes be revised. After some discussion, consensus was reached. The Secretary will email the draft minutes to the cochairs for review shortly after the meeting. The cochairs will email back their edits. Pete will make a .pdf version for the cochairs to email w/ agenda to members before the next meeting. Members will make changes as necessary at meeting. Pete will make final .pdf version & email to Charlotte to be posted.

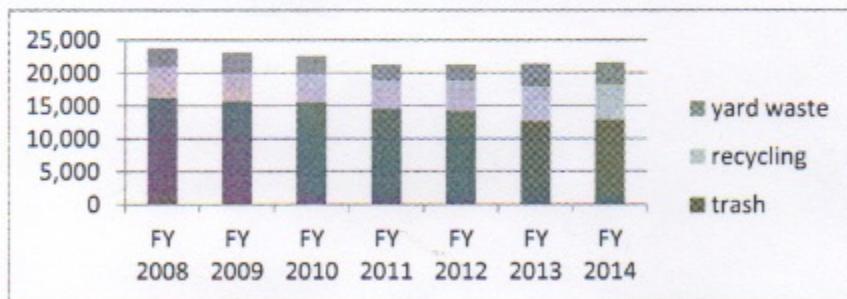
NEXT MEETING 10/2/14 –Meetings held 1st Thursday monthly at 7:30 PM in Town Hall Annex 1st Floor

Ref 1 Coordinator's Report

Ref 2 Rethink Recycling: Curbside Bins Are Only The Beginning

Arlington Municipal Solid Waste Tonnage by Waste

| | trash | recycling | yard waste | Mass MSW Master Plan Goals | What this means for Arlington |
|---------|--------|-----------|------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| FY 2008 | 16,232 | 4,639 | 2,881 | baseline MSW - 2008 | 16,232 tons |
| FY 2009 | 15,740 | 4,165 | 3,216 | where we are in FY 2014 | 12,846 |
| FY 2010 | 15,493 | 4,244 | 2,799 | 30% reduction by 2020 | 10,875 tons |
| FY 2011 | 14,538 | 4,395 | 2,332 | 80% reduction by 2050 | 3,246 tons |
| FY 2012 | 14,248 | 4,652 | 2,381 | | |
| FY 2013 | 12,603 | 5,278 | 3,503 | | |
| FY 2014 | 12,846 | 5,271 | 3,488 | | |



Diversion
Rate for
FY 2014 40.5 percent

| <u>Monthly Totals</u> | | |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Month | SW Tons | Rec Tons |
| Sep. | 1,042 | 451 |
| Oct. | 1,127 | 462 |
| Nov. | 1,049 | 430 |
| Dec. | 1,138 | 478 |
| Jan. 2014 | 1,086 | 478 |
| Feb. | 880 | 350 |
| March | 970 | 402 |
| April | 1,131 | 460 |
| May | 1,148 | 441 |
| June | 1,081 | 481 |
| July | 1,149 | 463 |

| <u>ARC Expense Report</u> | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|------------|----------|
| Date | Purchase | Cost proj. | Balance |
| 7/1/2013 | Starting bal \$3000 | | \$ 3,000 |
| 11/16/2014 | Foam Recycling | 250 | \$ 2,750 |
| 5/9/2015 | Foam Recycling | 250 | \$ 2,500 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Updates

purpose: document status:
Trash Audit curbside MSW behavior September/October

purpose: monitor trash status:
hauler, estimate current underway, 26
noncompliance by observation days
residents since July 11.

DPW Recycling Coordinator Action priorities for 2014-2015 DRAFT

1. Increase curbside monitoring of program compliance
2. Build on public space recycling opportunities/programs
3. Improve compliance and appearance of waste collection on Mass Ave, including business compliance with orange bag program
4. Continue public outreach through media and website publication
5. Monitor school building compliance with mandatory recycling
6. Explore new programs for waste diversion, including rigid plastics, bulkies, food waste, HHW expanded operations, and potential regional CHARM: Center for Hard to Recycle Material

Rethink Recycling: Curbside Bins Are Only the Beginning

Ref 2

New markets are created every day to re-use or recycle things that used to go in the trash. Here is a list of items that can't go in your recycling bin for curbside collection, but don't need to go in the trash. The more that people are willing to put a little effort into dropping these items off, the more locations will spring up to collect them.

Arlington has collection sites around town for many common items – you just need to know where to look. Community Collection Days (November and May) provide extra options for certain items where it's more efficient to collect in bulk. Check the list before each Collection Day to see what we accepting - it can change from year to year.

Below is a list of the most common items people ask about. There is often more detailed information on the Town website's recycling page: arlingtonma.gov/recycle

Plastic shopping bags - Please do not place in your recycling bin as they severely gum up the works at the recycling sorting and separation facility. Instead you can recycle them at Stop & Shop and Whole Foods Market.

Dry cleaning bags / hangers - Please do not place in your recycling bin as the bags and hangers severely gum up the works at the recycling sorting/separation facility. Many dry cleaners in town will accept them for recycling/reuse – ask your cleaner if they have a program. Wire hangers can be dropped off at the metal collection on Community Collection Days. The bags can be included in the plastic bag recycling bin at Whole Foods Market.

Textiles - Yes, textiles can be recycled - But not in your recycling bin - For what can be recycled (much more than you might originally think) -and- the location of drop off/collection bins please visit www.arlingtonma.gov/recycle

Books - Drop off locations (collection bins, libraries) can be found at www.arlingtonma.gov.recycle

E-waste - Electronic waste items (essentially anything with a plug) can be dropped off at the DPW (Grove Street) during normal business hours and recycled free of charge. Computer monitors, TVs and CRTs monitors are also accepted for recycling at the DPW offices in exchange for a small fee. Lastly local elementary schools hold regular e-waste collection fund raising events - And some retailers (Best Buy) accept and recycle many e-waste items free of charge.

Fluorescent and Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs - These items contain Mercury - Do not place in the regular trash or in your recycling bin. They can be recycled at Wannamaker Hardware (Mass Ave) -or- Shattuck Hardware (Mill Street)

Thermometers and thermostats - These items contain Mercury - Do not place in the regular trash or in your recycling bin. They can be recycled at Wannamaker Hardware (Mass Ave) -or- Arlington DPW during normal business hours.

Rechargeable batteries, camera button batteries - Please do not place in the regular trash or in your recycling bin - Instead please bring them to the DPW (Grove Street) for proper handling.

Note: Alkaline batteries can be disposed of in the regular trash.

Note: Lead car batteries need to be taken to a service garage for proper disposal.

Toner and Ink Jet Cartridges - Can be recycled at the DPW (Grove Street) for free - Staples rewards members can recycle cartridges at their store locations and earn rewards points (\$).

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) - Collected 8 times a year at the regional HHW collection facility in Lexington. See www.arlingtonma.gov.recycle for details/schedule, plus details on how to dispose of latex paints.

White goods - Large appliances and additional items are collected for recycling [\$20/item] - Call JRM [1-800-323-4285] to arrange - Items that need to be disposed of using this method include: air conditioning units, dehumidifier units, dishwashers, ranges, washing machines, dryers, oil burners, hot water heaters, stoves, refrigerators and freezers.

Compostable items - Yard waste should not include kitchen waste. Even better than having yard waste collected, you can keep more leaves on your property (on beds as mulch, mown into lawns, for backyard composting). Your own compost can include some of your kitchen waste and dirty paper towels or napkins. For more information on how to compost and reduce your yard waste volume, see tips and links at www.arlingtonma.gov/recycle.

Propane tanks (up to 20lbs) - Collected during business hrs at the DPW or during spring/fall community collection days.

Metal (non-appliance) -and- Clean Styrofoam (#5) - Collected semi-annually at the spring/fall community collection days.

Old Medications - Collected 24/7/365 at the Community Safety Building (Mystic Street).

Sharps (red sharp containers only) - Collected at the spring/fall community collection days.

Additional information available at www.arlingtonma.gov/recycle